



# Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Law Enforcement Section

Officer Brandon Baron

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## Public Information Release

Northern Region Office  
515 East 5300 South, Ogden, UT 84405

### Davis County Waterfowl Opener Violation Trends

**October 06, 2011**

Davis County-

Conservation officers with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) converged upon Davis County to assist with enforcement efforts on the annual waterfowl opener. Eight officers patrolled the Farmington Bay WMA, with the help of two non-sworn staff. Four officers were detailed to provide enforcement services at Howard Slough WMA. During the course of the weekend at these WMAs, and other locations countywide, a total of 79 violations were documented. The top three being;

- 1) Unlawful Taking/Possession of Protected Wildlife - Wrong Species or Methods Violations
- 2) Littering
- 3) Hunting Migratory Birds without HIP Registration



**Double Crested Cormorant shot on October 1, 2011.**

Officers caution hunters to brush up on their waterfowl identification skills prior to the hunt. Officers observed the killing of a Double Crested Cormorant, a protected species. Before being killed, it was shot at by several other individuals. Additionally, officers documented numerous firearms in the field that were capable of holding more than three shells. Hunting equipment restrictions are well described in the annual waterfowl hunting proclamation.

Littering on state Waterfowl Management Areas (WMA) is a significant problem. Hunters are cautioned to pick up empty shotshells and other litter before leaving the area. There are garbage receptacles in convenient locations at both WMAs.

The Harvest Information Program (HIP) has been around since the fall of 1998. Hunters are reminded to obtain a HIP number at [www.uthip.com](http://www.uthip.com) or by calling 877-882-4744 before going afield. Despite the fact that this requirement has been in effect for over a decade, conservation officers continue to handle a significant number of these violations.

Opportunities to enjoy Utah waterfowling are significant. The experience is best enjoyed by hunters who put in the effort to educate themselves of hunting regulations and follow them.

### Additional Contact(s):

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A photo from last hunting season showing the litter at Howard Slough WMA.